

## WAIVER OF VISAS AND VISA FEES FOR NONIMMIGRANTS

*Exchange of notes at Vienna June 10 and 28 and July 12, 1949  
Entered into force July 15, 1949*

63 Stat. 2740; Treaties and Other  
International Acts Series 1988

*The American Legation to the Austrian Federal Chancellery,  
Department of Foreign Affairs*

No. 55

The Legation of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Federal Chancellery, Department of Foreign Affairs, and has the honor to inform the Federal Chancellery that the Government of the United States understands that the Austrian Government will consider the question of waiving visa requirements, but not passport requirements, for American citizens proceeding to Austria who desire to remain therein for a temporary period of time.

Even if the Austrian Government should decide to waive visa requirements for American citizens proceeding to Austria, the Government of the United States would be unable to accord identical courtesies to Austrian nationals proceeding to the United States and its possessions because of the provisions of Section 30, Alien Registration Act of 1940, approved June 28, 1940 (54 Stat. 673), which require that each alien entering the United States, except in emergency cases in which the visa requirements may be waived by the Secretary of State, be in possession of a valid visa or other valid permit to enter. However, the Government of the United States will consider the question of granting passport visas without fees, to be valid for any number of applications for admission into the United States within a period of twenty-four months, instead of the present twelve-month period of validity of such visas, to Austrian nationals who are proceeding to the United States and its possessions for business or pleasure purposes and who are *bona fide* non-immigrants within the meaning of the immigration laws of the United States, provided the Austrian passport of each bearer remains valid during the period of validity of the visa.

All other classes of non-immigrant passport visas granted Austrian nationals will continue to be valid, as at present, for a period of twelve months, provided the Austrian passport of each bearer remains valid for that period of time.

The period of validity of a visa relates only to the period within which it may be used in connection with an application for admission at a port of entry into the United States and its possessions, and not to the length of stay in the United States which may be permitted the bearer after he is admitted. The period of stay will, as at present, continue to be determined by the Immigration authorities.

A fee for an immigration visa and application therefor to permit an alien to apply for admission into the United States with the privilege of residing permanently therein is \$10.00. The amount of this fee is prescribed by the Immigration Act of 1924,<sup>1</sup> and it may not be changed on the basis of a reciprocal arrangement.

The Legation would appreciate being informed as soon as conveniently possible whether the arrangement proposed by the Government of the United States meets with the approval of the Austrian Government.

VIENNA, June 10, 1949.

G.W.R.

To the

FEDERAL CHANCELLERY,  
*Department of Foreign Affairs,*  
*Vienna.*

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*The Austrian Federal Chancellery, Department of Foreign Affairs,*  
*to the American Legation*

[TRANSLATION]

FEDERAL CHANCELLERY  
Department of Foreign Affairs

Zl.139.051.—6RR/49

#### NOTE VERBALE

With reference to note verbale No. 55 of June 10, 1949, from the Legation of the United States of America, the Federal Chancellery, Department of Foreign Affairs, has the honor to notify you that the arrangement proposed by the Government of the United States of America has been approved by Austria and that July 15, 1949, is contemplated as the date for putting it into effect.

The Federal Chancellery, Department of Foreign Affairs, is pleased to avail itself of the opportunity to renew to the Legation of the United States of America the assurances of its highest consideration.

VIENNA, June 28, 1949.

*The Legation of the United States of America,*

Attention: Secretary of Legation GEORGE W. RENCHARD,  
*Vienna.*

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<sup>1</sup> 43 Stat. 153.

*The American Legation to the Austrian Federal Chancellery,  
Department of Foreign Affairs*

No. 69

The Legation of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Federal Chancellery, Department of Foreign Affairs, and with reference to the latter's Note No. Zl.139.051-6RR/49, of June 28, 1949, has the honor to state that the Department of State agrees that July 15, 1949, be made the effective date of the agreement between the Austrian Government and the Government of the United States, by which visa requirements, but not passport requirements, will be waived for American citizens proceeding to Austria. On its part the Government of the United States agrees to grant passport visas without fees, to be valid for any number of applications for admission into the United States within a period of 24 months, instead of the present 12 month period of validity of such visas, to Austrian nationals who are proceeding to the United States and its possessions, for business or pleasure purposes and who are bona fide non-immigrants within the meaning of the immigration laws of the United States, provided the Austrian passport of each bearer remains valid during the period of validity of the visas.

VIENNA, *July 12, 1949.*

G.W.R.

To the

FEDERAL CHANCELLERY,  
*Department of Foreign Affairs,  
Vienna.*